

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chairman Gordon R. Hendrick, on January 19, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick, Chairman (R)
Rep. Brian Hoven, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Betsy Hands, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)
Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)
Rep. Pat Connell (R)
Rep. Virginia Court (D)
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)
Rep. Alan Hale (R)
Rep. Cleve J. Loney (R)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Michele Reinhart (D)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Bill Harris (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lauren Head, Committee Secretary
Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 24 , 1/14/2011; HB 196, 1/14/2011; HB 232, 1/14/2011

HEARING ON HB 196

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:43 Rep. Pat Connell (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 196, Provide that Dept. of Commerce assist local gov't with fed land management props.

00:15:46 Rep. Hands left the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:19:01 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:20:49 Alan Wright, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:44 Rep. Barrett

00:23:31 Rep. Hands rejoined the meeting.

00:24:23 Rep. Connell

00:25:15 Rep. Bennet left the meeting.

00:28:12 Rep. Barrett

00:28:40 Rep. Connell

00:29:20 Rep. Flynn

00:29:45 Rep. Bennett rejoined the meeting.

00:30:05 Rep. Connell

00:31:39 Rep. Flynn

00:32:06 Rep. Connell

00:33:40 Rep. Court

00:34:20 Rep. Connell

00:35:00 Chairman Hendrick left the meeting and Vice Chairman Hoven assumed the Chair.

00:36:10 Rep. Court

00:36:21 Rep. Connell

00:37:13 Rep. Williams

00:38:20 Rep. Connell

00:39:26 Rep. Williams

00:39:45 Rep. Connell

Closing by Sponsor:

00:40:28 Rep. Connell

HEARING ON HB 24

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:41:57 Rep. Bill McChesney (D), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 24, Revise aquifer recharge and mitigation laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:47:49 Krista Lee Evans, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC), Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI)

00:51:28 Rep. Harris joined the meeting.

00:53:06 Mike Murphy, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)

00:54:43 John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau (MFB)

00:56:46 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

EXHIBIT(nah14a01)

00:59:13 Holly Franz, PPL Montana

01:02:05 Stan Bradshaw, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

01:03:52 Bob Lane, Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)

EXHIBIT(nah14a02)

01:05:39 Don MacIntire, Mountain Water Company

Opponents' Testimony:

01:07:53 Clayton Elliott, Northern Plains Resource Council

EXHIBIT(nah14a03)

01:12:23 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:16:10 Rep. Loney

01:16:52 Mrs. Sexton

01:17:18 Rep. Loney

01:17:23 Mrs. Sexton

01:17:55 Rep. Loney

01:18:01 Mrs. Sexton

01:18:11 Rep. Miller left the meeting.

01:18:27 Rep. Court

01:18:39 Mrs. Sexton

01:19:26 Rep. Flynn

01:20:02 Rep. McChesney

01:20:08 Rep. Reinhart

01:20:37 Mrs. Sexton

01:21:00 Rep. Reinhart

01:21:03 Mrs. Sexton

01:21:19 Rep. Reinhart

01:21:29 Mrs. Sexton

01:21:42 Rep. Reinhart
 01:21:47 Terry McLaughlin, Water Rights Bureau, DNRC
 01:22:32 Rep. Reinhart
 01:23:06 Mrs. McLaughlin
 01:23:27 Rep. Miller rejoined the meeting.
 01:24:39 Rep. Reinhart
 01:24:52 Mrs. McLaughlin
 01:25:07 Rep. Hands
 01:25:34 Mrs. Sexton
 01:26:12 Mr. Youngberg
 01:26:39 Rep. Hands
 01:27:03 Rep. Williams
 01:27:38 Mrs. McLaughlin
 01:29:41 Rep. Williams
 01:30:05 Mrs. McLaughlin
 01:32:20 Rep. Harris
 01:33:46 Mrs. McLaughlin
 01:35:24 Rep. Williams
 01:35:32 Rep. Hands left the meeting.
 01:35:40 Mrs. McLaughlin

Closing by Sponsor:

01:36:31 Rep. McChesney

HEARING ON HB 232

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:41:41 Rep. Pat Connell (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 232, Revise Montana environmental policy act for local government consult.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:49:38 Ron Devlin, Northwestern Energy, (NWE)
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a04\)](#)
 01:53:05 Rep. Hands rejoined the meeting.
 01:54:42 John Fitzpatrick, NWE
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a05\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a06\)](#)
 02:01:38 Leo Berry, Great Northern Properties (GNP)
 02:04:38 Debbie Shea, Executive Director, Montana Mining Association (MMA)
 02:05:47 Ann Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
 02:09:35 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association (WETA)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:12:22 Peter Scott, Gough, Shanahan, Johnson, and Waterman Attorneys at Law
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a07\)](#)

02:23:33 Tom Lythgowe, Jefferson County Commissioner
02:29:53 Leonard Wortman, Chair of Jefferson County Commission
02:36:31 Charles Wideman, self
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a08\)](#)
02:42:16 Debra Hanneman, self
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a09\)](#)
02:45:28 Colleen Teeling, Aspen Valley Landowners Association
02:50:25 Bob Haseman, self
02:51:33 Harold Blattie, MACo
[EXHIBIT\(nah14a10\)](#)
02:57:47 Alan Wright, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:59:09 Rep. Reinhart
02:59:30 Mr. Scott
03:00:46 Rep. Reinhart
03:00:55 Mr. Scott
03:01:22 Rep. Reinhart
03:01:36 Mr. Scott
03:03:06 Rep. Reinhart
03:03:30 Mr. Scott
03:05:53 Rep. Reinhart
03:06:06 Mr. Scott

Closing by Sponsor:

03:07:55 Rep. Connell
03:12:18 Vice Chairman Hoven

ADJOURNMENT

03:12:43 Adjournment

Lauren Head, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

[EXHIBIT\(nah14a11\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(nah14a12\)](#)

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nah14aad.pdf](#))